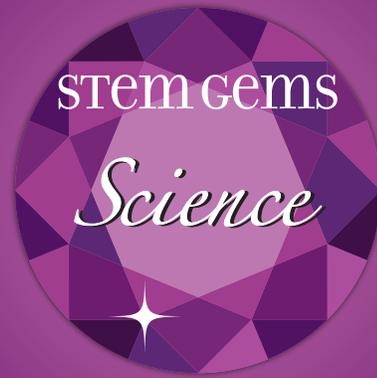


STEM Gem Career:
ARCHAEOLOGIST

STEM Gem:
MICHELE KOONS

"It's not an easy thing to have it all. But you have to follow your gut. If you want it, you can do it."



Is a career in Archaeology in your future? Have you ever considered it? STEM Gem Michele Koons uses high-tech inventions like drones and ground-penetrating radar to uncover secrets of past civilizations. Read her story and digest. Watch one of her online videos. Then, with your STEM Gems Tribe, **discuss, explore, reflect,** and **act.**

DISCUSS

1. How do Archaeologists like Dr. Koons make a difference in the world?
2. What experiences did Dr. Koons have growing up that led to her pursuit of a career as an Archaeologist?
3. What is Dr. Koons's educational background?
4. What are some of the challenges that Dr. Koons faced along her journey and in her career?
5. What are some of Dr. Koons's key accomplishments?
6. What inspired you most about Dr. Koons's story?
7. Dr. Koons says: *"It's not an easy thing to have it all. But you have to follow your gut. If you want it, you can do it."* How does her advice resonate with you?

EXPLORE

1. To pursue a career as an Archaeologist, what college majors should you consider?
2. What colleges and universities have programs in these areas?
3. What types of jobs are available for Archeologists? What is the salary range for an Archaeologist?
4. What classes should you take in middle and high school to prepare for a career as an Archaeologist?
5. Name at least two other women Archaeologists. How are they similar to Dr. Koons? How are they different?
6. What professional organizations support women in Archaeology? Do they have programs established for middle and high school students to learn more about this career?

REFLECT

Dr. Koons has a love of cultures and exotic travel. The people and culture blew her mind away during a school trip to Bolivia. If you could travel the world, where would you go? What would you see? Who would you like to meet? And why?

ACT

It's time to step outside your comfort zone. Name one concrete thing you will do before your next meeting that will have you one step closer to becoming a STEM Gem. Blog about it. Include it in your written or photo journal. Hold yourself accountable.

Work hard. Be brave. Stay curious.

BE A GEM!

Stephanie Espy

P.S. I'd love to hear about your journey. Share on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram and tag @STEMGemsBook #STEMGemsTribe, or email me at tribe@STEMGemsBook.com.